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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 263

8 April 1958

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1. The following were present:

Mr. D. J. Clinton	State
Mr. R. S. Kain	State
Col. D. H. Smith	Army
Mr. J. A. Minogue	Army
Cdr. J. A. Baldrige	Navy
Lt. D. P. Harvey	Navy
Lt. Col. H. K. Avery	Air Force
	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA (Vice Chairman)
	CIA (Secretary)

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2. Analysis of NIS Production

The Committee discussed OBI memorandum "Analysis of NIS Production--First Three Quarters FY 1958" submitted to the members under date of 8 April, and indicating the following production situation as of 31 March 1958:

	<u>Sections Scheduled</u>	<u>Sections Delivered</u>	<u>Percent Completed</u>
State	176	95	54%
Army	87	84	97
Navy	31	29	94
Air Force	22	17	77
CIA	69	60	87
Total:	385	285	74%

The vice chairman observed that NIS production in the first three quarters of FY 1958 is 40 sections more than last year's production over a similar period. He noted, however, that there remain 277 sections to fulfill the year's schedule, of which 100 sections are currently overdue. He considered that all agencies, except State, should be able generally to meet their full schedule. In view of State's production situation, he suggested that the over-riding priority for NIS production in State be continued beyond the 60-day period to the end of the fiscal year (refer to Item 6 NCM 262).

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3. Changes in NIS Production Schedule

The Committee approved the following changes in the current production schedule:

a. Rescheduled Section 33 (Inland Waterway) on NIS 90 (Argentina) from December 1957 to March 1959 (replacing Section 33 on NIS 74) in order to include new information, as requested in Army memorandum of 2 April 1958. Section 33 on NIS 74 (El Salvador) is dropped as a scheduled requirement as the subject waterway is to be fully covered in the related Section 30.

b. Rescheduled Section 36 (Merchant Marine) on NIS 13A (East Germany) from May to August 1958 because of unusually heavy production load, as requested in Navy memorandum of 27 March 1958. In approving this action the Committee noted that eight Sections 36 remain on the FY 1958 production schedule.

4. Maintenance Responsibility for Section 23 on Antarctica

The Army member submitted by memorandum dated 26 March 1958 recommendation that the responsibility for maintenance of Section 23 (Weather and Climate) on NIS 69 (Antarctica) be assigned to Navy on the following grounds:

"a. Navy prepared the original Section 23 contribution.

b. Navy has a continuing special interest and considerable meteorological experience in this area.

c. During the International Geophysical year, Navy will be directly involved in the collection of meteorological data from this area, a collection which is complicated by the number of participating agencies, foreign as well as domestic.

d. Maintenance of Section 23 for this area, however, will fall to the Air Force unless otherwise directed, since the area falls under Chapter II treatment, and Air Force is responsible for all Section 23 contributions.

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e. Air Force would have to begin maintenance on this area from scratch, without benefit of Navy's continuing interest and activity in the area, and without Navy's experience in the preparation of the original Section 23 contribution, or in the collection of data for the area.

f. Air Weather Service and Naval Weather Service representatives have concurred in this recommendation."

Following discussion of the recommendation the Committee approved the allocation to Navy for maintenance responsibility of Section 23 on NIS 69, and requested Navy to schedule production of this section as soon as pertinent IGY reports become available.

5. Changes to NIS Standard Instructions

The Committee approved for incorporation in the NIS Standard Instructions certain changes on NIS manuscript and graphic requirements and procedures tentatively initiated for a trial period ending 1 April 1958 by memorandum dated 24 October 1957 from the Chairman to NIS contributors (refer to Item 3 NCM 253).

The chairman announced that all changes to the NIS Standard Instructions approved by the Committee since the revised edition was published in June 1957 will be issued by the end of this fiscal year in revised pages which will carry a new dateline to identify them.

6. NIS Adequacy Ratings

The Army member raised a question in his memorandum of 31 March 1958 regarding interpretation of the Category II Adequacy Rating: "NIS material which with reasonable editorial support by the Office of Basic Intelligence, CIA, will satisfy minimum NIS standards" (refer to Item 2 NCM 85 of 5 December 1950).

His specific point was that "if the category rating is an evaluation of the product itself, then it appears that the product has been meeting only the minimum requirements after they /sic/ have been worked on by CIA." Further, he recommended "that CIA/OBI reexamine its present definition for NIS Category II editorial quality with the view of establishing that this category includes a range of

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qualities from that which is only slightly short of Category I quality to that which is, in fact, of minimum acceptable quality."

The chairman noted that these categories of qualitative adequacy of NIS contributions had been developed as general indications to contributors of the excellent, satisfactory, or unsatisfactory nature of their material as measured against NIS standards. Category II is intended to cover the range of quality greater than Category III and less than Category I. This is the range comprising about 80% of all contributions. He thought there would be no advantage in dividing the present Category II into two or more categories inasmuch as the editorial criteria are based on broad judgment rather than on precise formula.

The Committee considered the present category framework was sound but, to avoid further misinterpretation, approved the deletion of "minimum" in the definition of Category II.

7. Chapter I Planning Conference Schedule

The members were handed copies of the chairman's memorandum of 1 April 1958 setting forth the following tentative schedule for FY 1959 Chapter I planning conferences to be held at Harriet Lane Hall at 1000 hours on dates shown (refer to Item 3 NCM 236):

NIS	Country	Date of Meeting
24	Greece	2 June 1958
41B	South Korea	2 July 1958
41A	North Korea	1 Sept 1958
2	Ireland	3 Nov 1958
25X6Apr	Albania	1 Dec 1958
		5 Jan 1959
25X6A0200120019-6	East Germany	2 Feb 1959
		2 Mar 1959

8. Changes in NIS Area Titles

a. At the suggestion of the State member the Committee approved the following revisions in the General Area listings of NIS Area 13 to clarify the peculiar status of Berlin:

NIS 13A (East Germany) "German Democratic Republic"
25X6A including Soviet sector of Berlin

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b. The Committee approved the recommendation of the State member that the following titles and abbreviations be uniformly used in NIS materials to designate the new Middle East federations:

Egypt-Syria-Yemen	United Arab Republic (UAR)
Iraq-Jordan	Arab Federation (AF)

9 Classification of NIS

The State member said there was a tendency on the part of the Defense agencies to assign higher classification than State to their subcontributions of sections prepared by State. While the lower classification was generally agreed to after considerable inquiry back and forth, he urged that Defense NIS coordinators try to accomplish this end before the contributions are passed to State.

In regard to the general classification of NIS, the State member reported that the Department was concerned over the limited usefulness of NIS at overseas posts because of its high classification. He thought the solution to this problem lay in re-instituting a lower classification category similar to RESTRICTED, which would permit downgrading of many sections, particularly in Chapters IV and V which are the ones most used by embassies.

The chairman said that a RESTRICTED category would be most useful in downgrading much NIS material necessarily now carried as CONFIDENTIAL; in fact, many NIS sections were so classified before RESTRICTED was dropped as an official category. The alternate use of "Official Use Only" affords no protection and would be improper under NIS classification policy. While much NIS material is derived from open sources, it acquires classified significance through the evaluative intelligence process as well as from the use of other classified documents and sources.

The Committee agreed that the nature of the NIS required it to be classified, and the addition of a lower category, similar to RESTRICTED, would fill a serious classification need and would improve the usability and storage of NIS.

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10. The next meeting of the NIS Committee will be held at 1000 hours on Tuesday, 22 April 1958.

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